

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Metal Shortages in Kwangsi

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1. In mid-May 1953, all Chinese Communist state and privately operated machine factories in Kwangsi were suffering serious shortages of copper and steel. The shortage began in April, and by late May a majority of the factories had suspended operations. Copper and steel stocks of both state and private suppliers were nearly exhausted, with immediate replenishment unlikely.

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2. Factories suspending operations included 22 in Nanning, representing 75 percent of the plants in Nanning; 17 in Liuchou or 80 percent; 8 in Kueilin or 100 percent; 2 in Ishan (N 24-33, E 108-38), or 75 percent; and 6 in Wuchou (N 23-28, E 111-19), or 50 percent. These factories were subordinate either to railway and highway administrations, farm implement factories, or two other steel-using plants.

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